IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GUNJI et al.

Application No.: 10/716,473

Filing Date: November 20, 2003

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-

AMINO ACID USING METHYLOTROPH

Art Unit: 1656

Examiner: Robinson, Hope A.

Attorney Ref. No.: US-104

Confirmation No.: 5759

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 31, 2006, which set a 3-month shortened statutory period for response thereto, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows. A Petition for a one-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a), is filed concurrently herewith.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 6.

Remarks begin on page 8.